

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

(There are no amendments to the claims; however, for the convenience of the Examiner, all of the pending claims and appropriate status identifiers are presented below)

1. (Previously Presented) A gaming machine comprising:
a variable display device for variably displaying designs; and
a front display device disposed in front of the variable display device,
wherein the front display device includes a transparent liquid crystal display panel through which said variable display device is able to be seen, a light guiding plate for guiding light emitted from a light source to the entire of said liquid crystal display panel, and a diffusion sheet for diffusing the light guided by the light guiding plate to equalize the light which illuminates said liquid crystal display panel, and in said light guiding plate and diffusion sheet, transparent areas for ensuring the visibility of the variable display of said variable display device are formed, wherein

the transparent liquid crystal display panel, the diffusion sheet and the light guiding plate are arranged in a facially-opposed sequential manner such that the diffusion sheet is disposed between the transparent liquid crystal display panel and the light guiding plate and the light guiding plate is disposed between the diffusion sheet and the variable display device.

2. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein said variable display device is one or more rotatable reels each having a reel band thereon, on which said designs are drawn.

3. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein said gaming machine is a slot machine.

4. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein the diffusion sheet and the light guiding plate are in facial-surface-to-facial-surface contact with one another.

5. (Previously Presented) A gaming machine comprising:
a plurality of reels, each which has a plurality of symbols; and
a front display device disposed in front of the plurality of reels, the front display device including a transparent liquid crystal display panel through which the plurality of reels are able to be seen, a light guiding plate for guiding light emitted from a light source to the liquid crystal display panel, and a diffusion sheet for diffusing the light guided by the light guiding plate to equalize the light which illuminates the liquid crystal display panel,

wherein the diffusion sheet is provided with one or more transparent areas corresponding to the plurality of reels, the transparent liquid crystal display panel, the diffusion sheet and the light guiding plate are arranged in a facially-opposed sequential manner such that the diffusion sheet is disposed between the transparent liquid crystal display panel and the light guiding plate and the light guiding plate is disposed between the diffusion sheet and the plurality of reels.

6. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 5, wherein the front display device further includes a reflection plate for reflecting a light emitted from the light source on the light guiding plate to the liquid crystal display panel, the light guiding plate and the reflection plate are arranged in a facially-opposed sequential manner such that the reflection plate is disposed behind the light guiding plate.

7. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 6, wherein the reflection plate is provided with one or more windows corresponding to the plurality of reels.

8. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 6, wherein the diffusion sheet is in contact with the light guiding plate and the light guiding plate is in contact with the reflection plate.

9. (Previously Presented) A gaming machine comprising:
a plurality of reels, each which has a plurality of symbols; and
a front display device disposed in front of the plurality of reels, the front display device including, a transparent liquid crystal display panel through which the plurality of reels are able to be seen, a light guiding plate for guiding light emitted from a light source to the liquid crystal display panel, a diffusion sheet for diffusing the light guided by the light guiding plate to equalize the light which illuminates the liquid crystal display panel, and a reflection plate for reflecting a light emitted from the light source on the light guiding plate to the liquid crystal display panel,

wherein the reflection plate is provided with one or more transparent areas corresponding to the plurality of reels, the transparent liquid crystal display panel, the light guiding plate and the reflection plate are arranged in a facially-opposed sequential manner such that the light guiding plate is disposed between the transparent liquid crystal display panel and the reflection plate and the reflection plate is disposed between the light guiding plate and the plurality of reels.

10. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 9, wherein the light guiding plate is in contact with the reflection plate.